

Serial No. 10/747,746
60130-1623

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A self energized brake assembly comprising:
a rotatable brake member rotatable within a plane of rotation;
a first arm pivotally attached about a first pivot axis, said first arm engageable to said rotatable brake member on an opposite side of said plane of rotation from said first pivot axis;
a second arm pivotally attached about a second pivot axis, said second arm engageable to said rotatable brake member on an opposite side of said plane of rotation from said second pivot axis, and said second pivot axis is spaced a distance from said first pivot axis; and
an adjustable member to control gain in braking force from self-energization by adjusting said distance between said first and second pivot axes ~~pivots~~.
2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The assembly as recited in claim 1, comprising a biasing member disposed between said first arm and said second arm arms to bias said first pivot axis and said second pivots pivot axis toward each other.
3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein said adjustable member is a spring disposed to bias said first pivot axis and said second pivot axis ~~pivots away from towards~~ each other.
4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The assembly as recited in claim 1, comprising an electric drive for adjusting said distance between said first pivot axis and said second pivot axis ~~pivots~~.
5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein said first pivot axis and said second pivot axis ~~pivots~~ are disposed on a common plane and movable along said common plane to adjust braking force applied to said rotatable brake member.

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6. (WITHDRAWN) The assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein said adjustable member comprises a first threaded member threadingly engaged to one of said first and second arms.

7. (WITHDRAWN, CURRENTLY AMENDED) The assembly as recited in claim 6, comprising a drive for rotating said first threaded member, rotation of said first threaded member causes movement of said first and second arms between said engaged and disengaged positions.

8. (WITHDRAWN) The assembly as recited in claim 7, comprising a second threaded member threadingly engagable to one of said first and second arms on a distal end of said first and second arms from said first threaded member, and a second drive for rotating said second threaded member to move said first and second arms between said engaged and disengaged positions.

9. (WITHDRAWN, CURRENTLY AMENDED) The assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein said first and second pivots are disposed on a support a fixed distance from each other.

10. (WITHDRAWN, CURRENTLY AMENDED) A self-energizing brake assembly comprising:

a rotatable brake member;

a first friction element movable into engagement with said rotatable brake member; and

a first pivot arm having a first segment pivotally attached to a support, and a second segment pivotally attached to said friction element, said first pivot arm drives said friction element toward said rotatable brake member in response to engagement therebetween.

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11. (WITHDRAWN) The assembly of claim 10, wherein a distance between said first and second segments defines a desired force between said friction element and said rotatable brake member.

12. (WITHDRAWN) The assembly of claim 10, comprising a second pivot arm attached between said friction element and said support.

13. (WITHDRAWN) The assembly of claim 12, wherein said first and second pivot arms comprise a compliant portion.

14. (WITHDRAWN) The assembly of claim 12, wherein said first and second pivot arms comprise a biasing member.

15. (WITHDRAWN) The assembly of claim 12, wherein said first and second pivot arms comprise an adjustable length.

16. (WITHDRAWN) The assembly of claim 12, wherein said first segment is pivotally attached to said support at a centerline of rotation of said rotatable brake member.

17. (WITHDRAWN) The assembly of claim 12, wherein said first and second pivot arms are pivotally attached a common distance from a centerline of said rotatable brake member.

18. (WITHDRAWN) The assembly of claim 10, comprising a drive having an actuation arm attached to said friction element, said actuation arm movable by said drive to move said friction element between engaged and disengaged positions with said rotatable brake member.

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19. (WITHDRAWN) A self-energizing brake assembly comprising:
a rotatable brake member;
a first and second friction element movable between an engaged position with said rotatable brake member, and a disengaged position;
a first pivot arm pivotally attached to a support, said first pivot arm pivotally attached to said first and second friction elements such that rotation of said first pivot arm changes a distance between said first and second friction elements.
20. (WITHDRAWN) The assembly as recited in claim 19, wherein one of said first and second friction elements is fixed against rotation and movable linearly between said engaged and disengaged positions.
21. (WITHDRAWN) The assembly as recited in claim 19, comprising a second pivot arm disposed parallel to said first pivot arm, said second pivot arm pivotally attached to said support and pivotally attached to said first and second friction elements.
22. (WITHDRAWN) The assembly as recited in claim 21, wherein a length of said first and second pivot arms is adjustable.
23. (WITHDRAWN) The assembly as recited in claim 22, wherein said first and second pivot arms comprise a compliant portion.
24. (WITHDRAWN) The assembly as recited in claim 22, wherein said first and second pivot arms comprise a biasing member.
25. (WITHDRAWN) The assembly of claim 19, comprising an actuation arm attached to one of said friction elements and rotatable to vary said distance between said first and second friction elements.

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26. (WITHDRAWN) The assembly of claim 25, wherein said actuation arm and said pivot arm are a common member.

27. (WITHDRAWN) The assembly of claim 25, wherein said actuation arm is pivotally attached to a support and rotates said first and second friction elements to control said distance between said first and second friction elements.

28. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of controlling braking force gain created by a self-energizing brake assembly comprising the steps of:

a.) supporting a first brake pad about a first pivot axis and a second brake pad about a second pivot axis, wherein said first brake pad is selectively engageable to a rotatable brake member on a side of the rotatable brake member opposite said first pivot axis, and said second brake pad is selectively engageable to said rotatable brake member on a side of the rotatable brake member opposite said second pivot axis; and

b.) adjusting a distance between the first pivot axis and said second pivot axis pivots to control a magnitude of braking force generated by self-energization.

29. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as recited in claim 28, comprising increasing the distance between the first pivot axis and the second pivot axis pivots to decrease the magnitude of braking force generated by self-energization.

30. (WITHDRAWN) The method as recited in claim 28, wherein said step a.) comprises supporting said first and second brake pads along a lever.

31. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as recited in claim 28, wherein said step a.) comprises supporting said first brake pad on a support about a first pivot axis and said second brake pad on said support about a second pivot axis pivots within a common plane.